Complimentary tickets of Air India and Indian Airlines

1414. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India and Indian Airlines issue complimentry tickets, if so, who are the authorities authorised to issue such passes and their designations;

(b) what is the criteria laid down under the rules for issue of complimentary tickets and the categories/persons entitled for such tickets;

(c) what is the total number of passes issued under each of such category, Airline-wise and sector-wise; and

(d) whether any such complimentary tickets have been issued to Members of Parliament, State Legislators, Political Workers?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM): (a) Following officers in Air India and Indian Airlines are authorised to issue complimentary tickets:—

AIR INDIA	INDIAN AIRLINES
1. Commercial Manager	CMD/DY. MDs.
2. Passenger Sales Manager	Directors, Commercial, Corporate Affairs and Public Relations
3. Customer Relations Managers	Regional Directors
4. Manager	

(b) Complimentary tickets are issued for business promotion, keeping in view the commercial interest of the Airlines.

(c) Details of tickets issued by Air India and Indian Airlines are as under:—

Air India, April 96 to 15.7.97	267
Indian Airlines, July 96 to June, 97	1101

(d) Complimentary tickets are issued in the interest of airlines irrespective of the profession/occupation of the individual.

Deal to carry each others' passengers between AI and Singapore Airlines

1415. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Singapore Airlines and Air India have entered into a deal to carry each other's passengers;

(b) if so, the details and terms of the deal; and

(c) whether any similar deals are on cards with other international airlines, if so, details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM): (a) and (b) Air India have signed a Framework Agreement with Singapore Airlines (SIA) for code-share arrangement, under which SIA will make available to AI a block of seats on their flights to points on the West Coast of USA, Australia, New Zealand and Canada at an agreed price. Under this arrangement, the existing capacity entitlement of 15 B-747 units will be enhanced by six (6) 747 units per week for either side by summer 2000 and AI will be allowed 40 one way economy class seats per week in each direction for every additional unit of B-747 capacity operated by SIA. This Agreement is being placed before the Government for approval.

(c) Air India has entered into cooperative services agreements with United Airlines, Gulf Air, Scandinavian Airlines System, Kuwait Airways, Air Mauritius, Malayasian Airlines, Austrian Air and Air France. Air India is also examining the possibility of entering into an alliance agreement with Continental Airlines to cater to the India/US market.